

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

3. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the carrier gas is selected from the group consisting of air, carbon dioxide, argon, nitrogen and mixtures thereof.

4. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein each component of the composition has GWP of less than 3000.

5. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the inhibiting agent is selected from the group consisting of hydrofluorocarbons, hydrofluoroethers and mixtures thereof.

6. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the inhibiting agent has a boiling point of less than 100°C.

7. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the inhibiting agent is selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane, 1, 1, 1, 2-tetrafluoroethane, difluoroethane, heptafluoropropane, methoxy-nonafluorobutane, ethoxy-nonafluorobutane, dihydrodecafluoropentane and mixtures thereof.

8. A composition as claim in claim 4 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein each component of the composition has a GWP of less than 1500.

9. A composition as claimed in claim 7 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the inhibiting agent is 1, 1, 1, 2-tetrafluoroethane and the carrier gas is dry air.

10. A composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] containing less than 1% by volume inhibiting agent.

14. A method of protecting molten magnesium/magnesium alloy, the method including blanketing the magnesium/magnesium alloy with a cover gas composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims].

15. Use of an inhibiting agent as claimed in claim 7 [defined in any one of claims 1-12] for preventing or minimizing oxidation of molten magnesium/magnesium alloy.

16. A method of extinguishing a magnesium/magnesium alloy fire, the method including exposing the fire to an atmosphere of an inhibiting agent as defined in claim 7 [any one of claims 1-12].

CLEAN VERSION OF ALL PENDING CLAIMS

1. A cover gas composition for protecting molten magnesium/magnesium alloy, the composition including a fluorine containing inhibiting agent and a carrier gas, wherein each component of the composition has a Global Warming Potential (GWP) (referenced to the absolute GWP for carbon dioxide at a time horizon of 100 years) of less than 5000.
2. A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the inhibiting agent has no ozone depletion potential.
3. A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the carrier gas is selected from the group consisting of air, carbon dioxide, argon, nitrogen and mixtures thereof.
4. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein each component of the composition has GWP of less than 3000.
5. A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the inhibiting agent is selected from the group consisting of hydrofluorocarbons, hydrofluoroethers and mixtures thereof.
6. A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the inhibiting

7. A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the inhibiting agent is selected from the group consisting of difluoromethane, pentafluoroethane, 1, 1, 1, 2-tetrafluoroethane, difluoroethane, heptafluoropropane, methoxy-nonafluorobutane, ethoxy-nonafluorobutane, dihydrodecafluoropentane and mixtures thereof.

8. A composition as claim in claim 4 wherein each component of the composition has a GWP of less than 1500.

9. A composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the inhibiting agent is 1, 1, 1, 2-tetrafluoroethane and the carrier gas is dry air.

10. A composition as claimed in claim 1 containing less than 1% by volume inhibiting agent.

11. A composition as claimed in claim 10 containing less than 0.5% by volume inhibiting agent.

12. A composition as claimed in claim 11 containing less than 0.1% by volume inhibiting agent.

14. A method of protecting molten magnesium/magnesium alloy, the method including blanketing the magnesium/magnesium alloy with a cover gas composition as claimed in claim 1.

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15. Use of an inhibiting agent as claimed in claim 7 for preventing or minimizing oxidation of molten magnesium/magnesium alloy.

16. A method of extinguishing a magnesium/magnesium alloy fire, the method including exposing the fire to an atmosphere of an inhibiting agent as defined in claim 7.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are made for the sole purpose of reducing the filing fee of this application by eliminating the multiple claim dependencies and eliminating the non-statutory claim 13.

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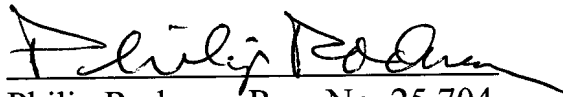
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Respectfully submitted,


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